



HF Happenings 807

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Southern African Fauna and Flora <https://zsfaunaandflora.wordpress.com/>



HOSTED BY **SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE**

SARL HF Digital Contest

The second of the SARL HF Contests, the HF Digital Contest, is on the air between 14:00 and 17:00 UTC on Sunday 19 August 2018 with activity between 14 070 and 14 099 kHz with FT8 on 14 074 kHz; 7 040 and 7 060 kHz with FT8 on 7 074 kHz and 3 580 and 3 600 kHz with FT8 on 3 573 kHz.

The exchange is an RSQ report and a consecutive serial number starting at 001. You score two (2) points per QSO with a station in Area 1 to 8 and one (1) point per QSO with a station in Area 9 - the aim of the contest states "for participants to contact as many amateurs in Southern Africa as possible on the 20, 40 and 80 m amateur bands."

You score two (2) points for each area worked on each band, there are only 9 areas and you score two (2) for each station worked on all three bands.

Submit your log in ADIF (with a summary sheet), Cabrillo (with a summary sheet) or MS Excel format (the summary sheet is part of the Excel spreadsheet) and labelled "my call sign HF Digital" by 26 August 2018 by e-mail to zs4bfn@mweb.co.za. Refer to GR 3.6 and 5.1 to 5.6 for detail about logs and summary sheets.

The ZS4BS Trophy Digital. Awarded to the amateur who achieves the highest score during the annual South African Radio League HF Digital Contest.

The South African Radio League Trophy. Awarded to the amateur who achieves the highest score on any one band, during the annual South African Radio League HF Digital Contest.

SARL HF Phone Contest

I am amazed at the excuses that I get when asking participants where their summary sheets are – "I thought it is only for the logs in Excel, not for ADIF." And the logs that are received "KOMPETSIE LOG.xlsx" or "Log Book.xlsx" or "2018 SARL-HF-Phone-Calculations.xlsx" or "SARL-HF-

August

- 4 Aug to 2 Sept – Clanwilliam Wild Flower Festival
- 8 to 15 – [YOTA 2018 Summer Camp in South Africa](#)
- 9 – National Women's Day; [SARL YL Sprint](#)
- 12 – International Youth Day
- 13 - [closing date for HF Phone contest logs](#)
- 16 – [closing date YL Sprint logs](#)
- 18 and 19 – Lowveld Book Festival, White River; The Chocolate Festival, Stellenbosch; [International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend](#)
- 19 – [SARL HF Digital Contest](#); World Humanitarian Day
- 22 - Eid-al-Adha
- 23 – [closing date for articles for the September Radio ZS](#)
- 24 to 25 - Hantam Vleisfees, Calvinia
- 24 to 26 – Magalies Rocks the Cradle Festival, Magaliesburg
- 25 – [Cape Town ARC Meeting; Pretoria ARC AGM and Flea Market](#)
- 26 – [SARL HF CW Contest](#)
- 27 – [closing date for HF Digital logs](#)

September

- 1 - West Rand ARC Flea Market
- 1 and 2 - Region 1 SSB Field Day and RSGB SSB Field Day
- 3 - closing date for HF CW logs

Phone-Digital-and-CW-auto-calculations HF PART 05082018.xlsx" when the rule states 'labelled "my call sign HF Phone."' But then I believe not everybody has downloaded the 2018 Blue Book, did not read the CQ Contest column in the August 2018 Radio ZS or read the SARL Communication sent out on 29 July 2018.

The results of the Phone Contest will be published in HF Happenings 808 next week.

African DX

Contacts with stations on the African continent count towards the SARL's All Africa Award (www.sarl.org.za/public/awards/awards.asp)

Morocco, 5E. Jose, EA1ACP, Gen, EA5EL, Francisco, EA7FTR and David, EB7DX will be active with the special call sign 5E5A during four different periods. Activity is "National Celebrations in Morocco". The first period has past (28 to 31 July), but the next three are 14 and 15 August, 19 to 21 August and 30 August to 3 September. Operations will be on CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via EA7FTR.



Zimbabwe DXpedition, Z23MD. 2018 The New Adventure for the Mediterraneo DX Club. [Update] The MDXC reports on 26 July that their team of operators is complete for their Z23MD operation between 26 October and 6 November. The list of operators is Ant, IZ8CCW (Leader), Gabriele, I2VGV (Co-leader), Marco, IZ2GNQ, Michel, F5EOT, François, ON4LO, Gabi, YO8WW, Eric, ON7RN, Henri, F1HRE, Dario, IZ4UEZ, Andrea, IK5BOH, Feri, YO5OED, Steve, MW0ZZK, Alex, YO8SS, Karl, OE3JAG, Adrian, KO8SCA, Sarath, VU3RSB, Wlodek, SP6EQZ, Axel, DL6KVA, Les, SP3DOI and Gerd, DJ5IW. The official Web site, by the way, is already online at www.mdxc.org/z23md

African Islands

IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz

Canary Islands, EA8. Bob, GU4YOX, will be active as EA8/GU4YOX from Fuerteventura Island (AF-004) during the CQ WW DX CW Contest (24 and 25 November) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20 m)/Low-Power entry. QSL via GU4YOX, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

HAARP on WSPR

The High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP www.gi.alaska.edu/haarp), now operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, planned to use the WSPR mode on 80 meters for a multi-day experiment www.arrl.org/news/view/haarp-campaign-to-use-wspr-on-80-meters?utm_source=contest_update&utm_medium=email. It appears they did so, with spots for the experimental call sign W12XFX appearing on the WSPRnet website <http://wsprnet.org/drupal/wsprnet/spots>.

FT8+

A digital operating mode that combines today's FT8 characteristics for decoding sensitivity, along with better support for grid information and rover support for VHF Contest operation, along with an exchange formats that can easily support ARRL Field Day, ARRL RTTY Roundup, and arbitrary exchanges including serial numbers is being proposed as "FT8+" by the same crew that brought us FT8 http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjt-x_v2.0.txt. FT8+ will first appear in a version of WSJT-X perhaps as soon as September 2018 and utilize the segments of the bands that originally saw JT9 signals. After a transition period, it's planned for the original FT8 protocol to be retired. See the WSJT-X 2.0 plans document for more details (the URL above.)

Word to the Wise

Zero Beat - a recent edition of *ARRL The Doctor is In* podcast discusses Zero Beat www.arrl.org/files/file/DoctorPodcast/2018/July%2019%202018%20-%20Zero%20Beat.mp3. The Zero Beat term originated from the time when receivers and transmitters were separate; the receiver frequency was brought to the same frequency as the transmitter by listening to carrier signals at the two frequencies simultaneously. As the frequencies become closer and closer together, the difference frequency can be first heard as a tone, but as they become nearly identical, a difference of a few cycles per minute is heard as more of a varying

in loudness of one of the signals, eventually a thump, or beat. Hearing no beat indicates that the frequencies are identical.

With today's frequency stable transceivers tuneable with sub-Hertz accuracy in some cases, zero beat can also be used to indicate the act of tuning exactly to a frequency of another station, perhaps as the result of clicking on a spot in a logger band map. During a contest, you might NOT want to be zero-beat with the spot frequency of a multiplier you need, since others may be calling at the same time. You'd like your signal to stand out.

Operating Tip

A Straight Key Can Be a Quick Way through a Pileup - while competing for a contact with other stations in a pileup, you want your signal to be distinctive, to stand out, and be easier to copy than other stations. There are a number of ways to achieve this and the best one depends on the operator and pileup. In a receiver pass band of computer-generated CW, artisanal hand-sent CW can sometimes be enough of a differentiator to make it through before others. Remember, the objective is for the other operator to copy your signal quickly and effectively, so make sure you're sending excellent well-formed elements.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 6 to 13 August 2018

ARS Spartan Sprint

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 7 August

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Skinny; Tubby

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

Submit logs by: 9 August 2018

E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://arsgrp.blog-spot.com/2009/02/so-whats-spartan-sprint-and-how-do-i.html>

Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 8 August

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 10 August 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Con-test_Rules.pdf

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 8 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 9 August

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 11 August 2018

Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.cwops.org/cwt.html

QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 10 August

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 11 August 2018
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.qrpfoxhunt.org/summer_rules.htm

NCCC RTTY Sprint
01:45 - 02:15 UTC 10 August
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: RTTY
Bands: (see rules)
Classes: (none)
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 12 August 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 10 August
Geographic Focus: North America
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 12 August 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at: www.3830scores.com/
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: <http://ncccsprint.com/ladder.html>

WAE DX CW Contest
00:00 UTC 11 August to 23:59 UTC 12 August
Geographic Focus: Europe
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op – high or low; Multi-Op; SWL
Max operating hours: Single Op: 36 hours, off times of at least 60 minutes; Multi-Op: 48 hours
Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts
Exchange: RST and serial no
Work stations: Once per band
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 27 August 2018
E-mail logs to: (none)
Upload log at: www.dxhf.darc.de/~waecwlog/upload.cgi?form=referat
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.darc.de/der-club/referate/referat-conteste/worked-all-europe-dx-contest/en/

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
12:00 UTC 11 August to 24:00 UTC 12 August
Geographic Focus: Worldwide
Participation: Worldwide
Awards: Worldwide
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
Classes: (none)
Max operating hours: 24
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and SKCC no or NONE
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Bonus Points: (see rules)
Multipliers: Each state, province, or country once
Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
Submit logs by: 19 August 2018
Post log summary at: www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/submit-display.php
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

Maryland-DC QSO Party
16:00 UTC 11 August to 04:00 UTC 12 August
Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party
Participation: Worldwide
Mode: CW, Phone, Digital
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2, 432
Classes: Standard; Mobile; Club; QRP
Exchange: MDC: entry class and county; non-MDC: entry class and state, province or country
Work stations: Once per band per mode
QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with club station; 5 points per QSO with mobile station; 4 points per QSO with QRP station; 3 points per QSO with

CW/digital station; 1 point per QSO for all other stations; Bonus: 50 points for at least one QSO with W3VPR

Multipliers: MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only; MDC: Each state (other than MD), VE province and country once only; non-MDC: Each MD county, DC, Baltimore City, once only

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 11 September 2018

E-mail logs to: MDCQSOP@w3vpr.org

Mail logs to: MDC QSO Party, PO Box 308, Davidsonville, MD 21035, USA

Find rules at: [www.w3vpr.org/sites/default/files/mdcqsoparty/Documents/Maryland QSO Party Rules 2018.pdf](http://www.w3vpr.org/sites/default/files/mdcqsoparty/Documents/Maryland%20QSO%20Party%20Rules%202018.pdf)

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint
00:00 – 02:00 UTC 13 August

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op

Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 15 August 2018

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://qrptest.com/4sqr>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: www.4sqr.com/SSS/sss_rules.pdf

Next Week's Contests

NAQCC CW Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 15 August

Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 15 August

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 15 August and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 August

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 17 August

NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 17 August

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 August

SARTG WW RTTY Contest, 00:00 – 08:00 UTC and 16:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 August and 08:00 - 16:00 UTC 19 August

Russian District Award Contest, 08:00 UTC 18 August to 08:00 UTC 19 August

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest, 12:00 UTC 18 August to 12:00 UTC 19 August

Feld Hell Sprint, 16:00 - 17:59 UTC 18 August

North American SSB QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 18 August to 05:59 UTC 19 August

CVA DX CW Contest, 21:00 UTC 18 August to 21:00 UTC 19 August

SARL HF Digital Contest, 14:00 - 17:00 UTC 19 August

ARRL Rookie RTTY Roundup, 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 19 August

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 20 August

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter